

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 1 is pending in the application and the Examiner rejected claim 1.

**Claim Rejections, 35 U.S.C. §102**

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by “Java I/O” by Harold.

**The Present Invention**

The present invention simplifies the tasks that programmers need to carry out to manipulate (e.g., load and save) archives. This is accomplished by providing a common archive interface which is utilized by the programmer to access archive files of varying formats. The common archive interface implements a common set of methods or instructions which the programmer can utilize to manipulate the files, and which automatically and transparently to the programmer loads and saves the files appropriately without regard as to the format (archive, directory, etc.) in which the files are stored.

Thus, a determination of the file structure is made, a loading strategy is created based on the determined file structure, a virtual archive of the files is created, with the files being stored in the virtual archive in an archive format, regardless of the format in which the original files were stored.

**“Java I/O” by Harold**

“Java I/O” by Harold (“Harold”) is directed to dealing with .zip files in a single format, and the only “discrimination” it implements has to do with the types of .zip entries within the .zip file. It makes no reference to the ability to provide access to a file and folder structure which may be in one of many formats, including archive/zip-like formats and directory tree formats.

**The Cited Prior Art Does Not Anticipate the Claimed Invention**

The MPEP and case law provide the following definition of anticipation for the purposes of 35 U.S.C. §102:

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.”  
MPEP §2131 citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Company of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)

**The Examiner Has Not Established a *prima facie* Case of Anticipation**

Claim 1 has been substantially amended to set forth additional details regarding the creation of different loading strategies for different formats, as well as the ability to return to the client a “virtual archive” that is in an archive format, regardless of which file structure the requested file was originally stored. A new claim has also been added claiming similar details but in a system rather than a method format.

As noted above, the Java I/O reference is directed only to .zip files and a single format. By contrast, the present claimed invention allows for a single API which can transparently provide access to a file and folder structure which may be in one of many zip-like archive formats or an exploded directory structure on the file system. It provides archive-like access to files which may be in many forms, allowing a single client program to deal with files in many different actual structures.

Each of these above elements that are not found in the Java I/O reference are in the pending claims. Accordingly, the Java I/O reference does not anticipate the claimed invention.

### **Conclusion**

The present invention is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claim. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Enclosed herewith, in triplicate, is a Petition for extension of time to respond to the Examiner's Action, along with a Credit Card Payment Form authorizing payment of the fee.

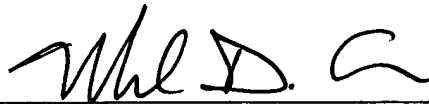
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-5425.

Respectfully submitted

APRIL 18, 2005  
Date

  
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Mark D. Simpson, Esquire  
Registration No. 32,942

SYNNESTVEDT & LECHNER LLP  
2600 ARAMARK Tower  
1101 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Telephone: (215) 923-4466  
Facsimile: (215) 923-2189